

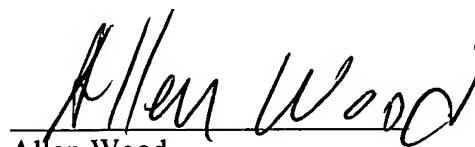
REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment is being filed in order to adapt the present application to U.S. patent practice.

It is noted that several paragraphs of the specification have been revised by adding sentences which refer to reference characters or reference numbers that were not mentioned in the original versions of the these paragraphs. This does not constitute new matter, though, since these reference numbers or characters were identified in a "list of reference symbols" on pages 20 and 21 of the application as-filed. Pages 20 and 21 are being deleted in the present Preliminary Amendment.

Examination of the application on its merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allen Wood", is written over a horizontal line.

Allen Wood
Registration No. 28,134
Customer No. 23995
(202) 326-0222
(202) 408-0924 (facsimile)

AW:rw